

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please amend the specification as set forth below.

Please replace the paragraph from page 5, line 26, to page 6, line 11, with the following paragraph:

"As used herein, the term "gelling agent" means a substance that can undergo gelation as described above. Examples include materials such as gelatin, water-soluble cellulose ethers or poly(n-isopropylacrylamide) that undergo thermal gelation or substances such as poly(vinyl alcohol) that may be chemically cross-linked by a borate compound. A preferred gelling agent is alkali pretreated gelatin. Other gelling agents may be polymers that may be cross-linked by radiation such as ultraviolet radiation. Further examples of gelling agents include acacia, alginic acid, bentonite, carbomer, carboxymethylcellulose sodium, cetostearyl alcohol, colloidal silicon dioxide, ethylcellulose, gelatin, guar gum, hydroxyethylcellulose, hydroxypropyl cellulose, hydroxypropyl methylcellulose, magnesium aluminum silicate, maltodextrin, methylcellulose, polyvinyl alcohol, povidone, propylene glycol alginate, sodium alginate, sodium starch glycolate, starch, tragacanth and xanthum gum. (For further discussion on gelling agents, see ~~accompanying reference~~ Secundum Artem, Vol. 4, No. 5, Lloyd V. Allen). Alpha or beta amylase or cellulase may be used to remove excess polysaccharides and agarase may be used to remove excess agar."